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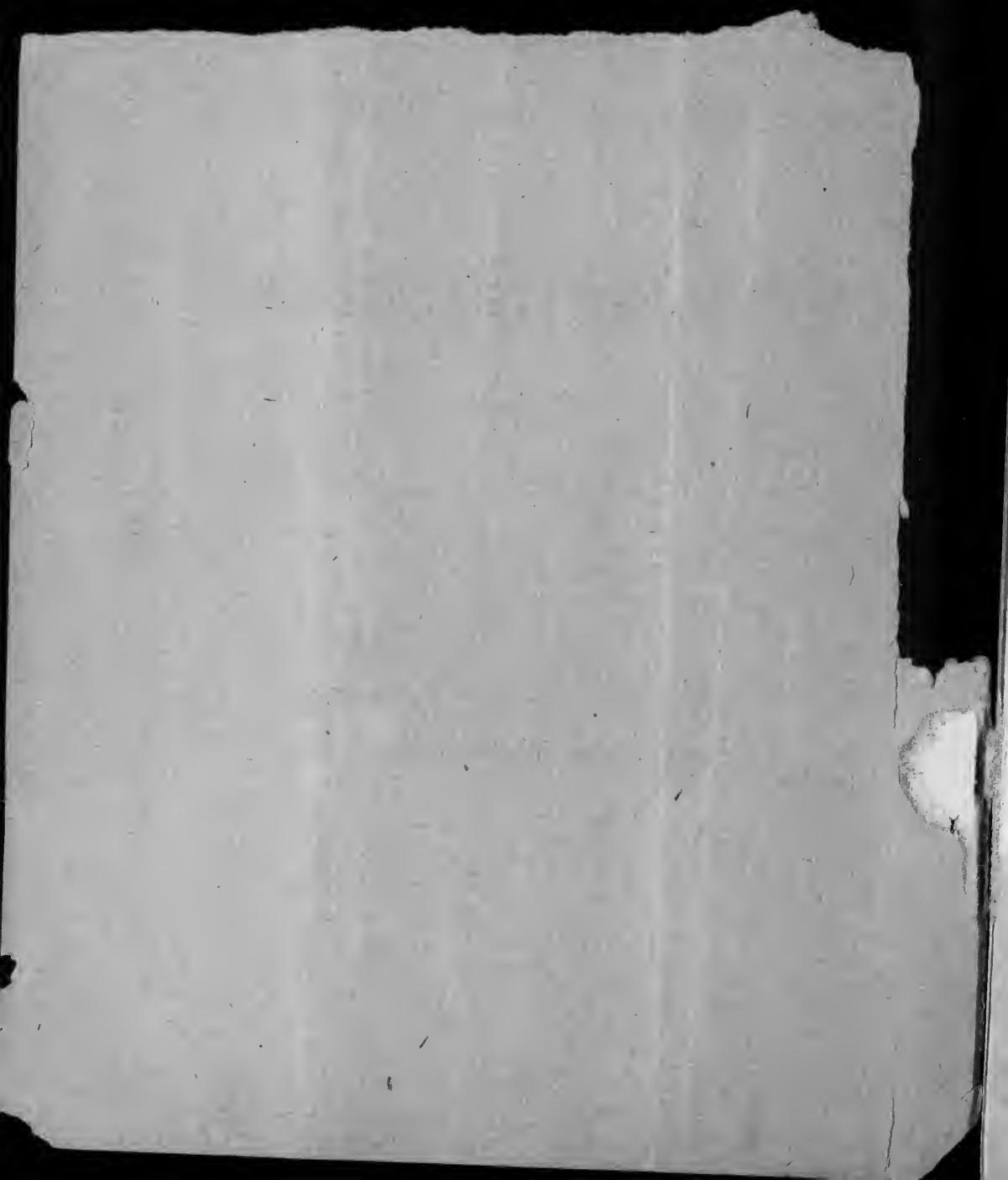
~ ~ M. P. Church. ~ ~

Seventy-Third Session, Mitchell's Chapel,

November 20-23, 1902.

Rev. J. McD. RADFORD, President.

J. J. BARGE, Secretary.



MINUTES

—OF—

The Seventy-Third Session

—OF—

THE GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

—OF—

The Methodist Protestant Church

—HELD AT—

MITCHELL'S CHAPEL,

November 20--23, 1902.

Rev. J. McD. RADFORD, President.

J. J. BARGE, Secretary, 917 Austell Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

COOPER PRINTING Co., 108½ Whitehall St. Atlanta, Ga.

EMORY UNIVERSITY



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Membership Roll.

ADMITTED.

ADMITTED.	ADDRESS.	
1858, G. W. Morris,	Conley,	Georgia.
1861, T. J. Biggers,	Draketown,	"
1861, J. O. A. Radford,	Monroe,	"
1868, R. S. McGarity,	Jefferson,	"
1872, J. A. McGarity,	Jersey,	"
1872, W. J. Causey,	Victory,	"
1877, E. C. Jordon,	Gore,	"
1883, A. Mauldin,	Waco,	"
1884, S. M. Garrett,	East Atlanta,	"
1890, J. C. Patrick,	Lovejoy,	"
1891, J. McD. Radford,	Carrolton,	"
1892, W. P. Bryant,	Newnan,	"
1895, A. G. Upshaw,	Stockbridge,	"
1897, S. J. Robinson,	Brooks Station,	"
1899, E. B. Aycock,	Jersey,	"
1899, L. C. Wilkerson,	Georgetown,	"
D. H. Mobley,	Auburn,	"
J. R. Anderson,	Waco,	"
N. W. Wortham,	High Shoals,	"

Laymen.

Atlanta Station—N. M. Echols, Atlanta, Ga.

Bowdon Circuit—H. S. Causey, Victory, Ga.; J. L. Thurman.

Cedar Grove Circuit—B. F. Morris, Conley, Ga. P. M. Blackman, Ellenwood, Ga.

DeKalb Circuit—J. F. Mitchell, Rex, Ga. (R. F. D. No. 1.)

Gordon Circuit.,

Jackson Circuit—R. J. Pentecost.

Jersey Circuit—T. G. Berry, A. F. Pennington.

Laurel Branch Circuit—M. L. Byington, A. R. Bloodworth, Milledgeville, Ga.

Mandeville, Mission—G. P. Earnest.

Newnan Circuit—E. A. Huckaby.

Oconee Mission—

Pleasant Grove Station—John Wise Stephens.

Paniona, Mission—J. P. Ruchanan,

Randolph Circuit—H. C. Marshall, Cuthbert, Ga.

Riverdale Circuit—A. J. Conckle, J. H. White.

Rome Circuit—

Sharon Mission—J. S. Sharley.

Tallapoo-a Circuit—C. White, Berlene, Ga.

Waco Circuit—W. D. Star.

Walton Circuit—T. J. Whitley.

OFFICERS.

REV. J. McD. RADFORD, President.
J. J. BARGE, Secretary.
REV. J. A. McGARITY, Steward.

Faculty of Instruction.

REV. J. McD. RADFORD, REV. R. S. McGARITY, REV. W. J. CAUSEY.

Board of Church Extension.

Rev. W. J. Causey, Rev. R. S. McGarity, Rev. J. A. McGarity, G. W. Morris, B. F. Morris.

Committees.

Standing Dist.—Rev. R. S. McGarity, Rev. J. O. A. Radford, Rev. W. J. Causey, B. T. McGarity, A. Conckle, E. S. Lane.

Boundary—Rev. J. C. Patrick, Rev. S. M. Garrett, P. M. Blackman, A. R. Bloodworth, E. A. Huckaby.

Stationing—Rev. J. O. A. Radford, Rev. J. A. McGarity, Rev. A. Mauldin, R. J. Pentecost, A. J. Conckle.

Pulpit Service—Rev. S. M. Garrett, Rev. A. G. Upshaw, W. D. Star.

Credentials—Rev. A. Mauldin, W. D. Star, G. P. Earnest.

Temperance—Rev. D. H. Nobley, A. F. Pennington, J. P. Buchanan.

Finance—H. S. Causey, A. R. Bloodworth, R. J. Pentecost.

Official Character—Rev. J. C. Patrick, Rev. A. Mauldin, P. M. Blackman.

Statistics—Rev. E. B. Aycock, J. F. Mitchell, N. M. Echols.

Orders and Itinerancy—Rev. J. O. A. Radford, Rev. R. S. McGarity, B. F. Morris.

General Interest—Rev. J. A. McGarity, H. S. Causey, J. S. Sharley.

Journals—Rev. J. R. Anderson, C. White, T. G. Berry.

Publishing—J. J. Barge.

PROCEEDINGS—SYNOPTICAL.

THURSDAY, November 20, 1902, 10 a. m.

Conference opened with religious exercises, conducted by Rev. J. A. McGarity.

Conference called to order by the president, after which it entered upon the election of officers, which resulted as follows: For President, Rev J. McD. Radford; for Secretary, J. J. Barge; for Conference Steward, Rev. J. A. McGarity.

11 A. M., Conference took a recess to hear Rev. F. T. Tagg, D.D., Editor of The Methodist Protestant, present the publishing interests of the church.

On motion, Brothers W. A. Campbell and G. W. Wallace were invited to honorary seats on the floor of the conference.

The following committees were elected: Standing District, Boundary and Stationing. (See Committees.)

The President appointed the following committees: Temperance, Finance, Official Character, Statistics, Orders and Itinerancy, General Interests, Journals, Credentials, Pulpit Service. (See Committees.)

Bar of the conference fixed, and members requested to come within. President made his annual report. Report adopted and ordered that it be published in the minutes.

Conference hours fixed at 9 to 11 A. M. and 1 to 4:30 P. M.

Resolution offered by Rev. J. O. A. Radford concerning the proposed union of the several non-Episcopal denominations of Methodisms and other bodies who, in common with us, hold and adhere to the Arminian school of faith and doctrine. On motion, it was made the special order for Saturday morning, November 22, 1902, immediately after the assembling of the conference.

7:30 P. M., Rev. T. J. Ogburn, Secretary Foreign Mission Board, presented in a masterful manner the interests he so faithfully represents.

FRIDAY, November 21, 1902.

Religious exercises conducted by Rev. A. Mauldin.

Minutes of November 20th read and approved.

On motion Brothers J. L. Adamson, A. D. Pace, R. S. Wortham, J. M. Miller and J. B. Crawford were invited to honorary seats on the floor of the conference.

Resolution offered by Rev. S. M. Garrett in reference to the establishment of a Mutual Burial Association. Resolution tabled.

11 A. M., preaching by Rev. J. O. A. Radford from Luke 24:47.

1:30 P. M., Conference called to order.

Committee on Official Character made report which was received and adopted. (See report.)

Report of Committee on Finance received and adopted. (See report.)

7:30 P. M., preaching by Rev. J. C. Patrick.

SATURDAY, November 22, 1902.

Religious exercises conducted by Rev. S. J. Robinson—2d Cor. 4th chapter.

Minutes of November 21st read and approved.

Special order passed until evening session.

On motion, Brothers J. S. Fowler and J. W. Clarke were invited to honorary seats on the floor of the Conference.

Report of committee of trial in the case against Rev. W. B. Costley received and adopted. (See report.)

And, on motion, the president was directed to demand and secure from said W. B. Costley his credentials as an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church.

Board of Church Extension was elected. (See Board.)

Report of Boundary Committee received and considered seriatim. Report adopted (See Report.)

Report of Committee on General Interests received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Committee on Temperance received and adopted. (See Report.)

11 A. M. Rev. Dr. J. W. Blosser, of the United Brethren Church, was introduced and spoke in a very earnest and forceful manner of the necessity of a closer relation of all non-Episcopal Methodisms. His address was received by the Conference with a spirit of sympathetic response, and by a rising vote the Conference thanked the speaker for his presentation of the reasons underlying the necessity of a Union of the United Brethren and the Methodist Protestant church.

Resolution offered by Rev. J. McD. Radford asking the Board of Home Missions to take the matter of establishing a church in the city of Atlanta under advisement, and if possible, establish a church in said city. Resolution adopted. (See Resolution.)

Report of Stationing Committee received, considered seriatim and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Committee on Journals received and adopted. (See Report.)

On motion, Revs. R. S. McGarity and J. McD. Radford were elected to attend the conference of the United Brethren at their coming session, in the city of Atlanta, and bear the fraternal greetings of this conference.

On motion, it was ordered that when the conference adjourn at 4:30 this afternoon, it be to meet again at 7 o'clock this evening.

7:00 P. M.: Report of Committee on Orders and Itinerancy received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Board of Church Extension received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Treasurer of Board of Church Extension received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Conference Steward received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Committee on Credentials received and adopted. (See Report.)

Report of Committee on Statistics received and adopted. (See Report.)

Moved and carried that the Secretary be made Publishing Committee and that he be allowed ten dollars for his service.

Ordered that the next annual session of this conference be held at Mt. Zion church, in Henry county, on Thursday before the first Sunday in December, 1903.

Resolution of thanks offered and adopted by a rising and unanimous vote. (See resolution.)

Resolution by Rev. J. O. A. Radford, referring to a Union of non-Episcopal Methodisms considered and adopted. (See Resolution.)

Minutes read and approved.

Conference adjourned,

J. McD. RADFORD, President.

J. J. BARGE, Secretary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Boundary.

Atlanta Mission—Mitchell's Chapel.

Bowdon Circuit—Bowdon, Victory, Carrollton, Smith's Chapel.

Cedar Grove Circuit—Cedar Grove, Owl Rock, Anvil Block.

Constitution Mission—New Hope.

DeKalb Circuit—Mt. Zion, Kelley's Chapel, Clifton.

Gordon Circuit—Mt. Pleasant, Woodlawn, Fowler's Chapel, Shiloh.

Jackson Circuit—Pentecost, Pleasant Grove, Nazareth, Pleasant Hill.

Jersey Circuit—Alcovy, Brown's Chapel, Newton's Factory, Austin's Chapel.

Laurel Branch Circuit—Laurel Branch, Union Hill.

Newnan Circuit—Brooks' Station, Mt. Zion, Lee's Chapel, Oak Grove.

Pleasant Grove Mission—Pleasant Grove.

Pomona Mission—Pomona.

Ocnee Mission—Ross' Chapel.

Randolph Circuit—Trinity, Alamo.

Riverdale Circuit—Mt. Carmel, Poplar Spring, Hopewell, Stockbridge.

Rome Circuit—Montgomery Chapel, Heywood, Reeve's Station.

Rock Spring Mission—Rock Spring.

Sharon Mission—Sharon.

Tallapoosa Circuit—Manderville, Union Grove, Harmony, Mt. Carmel.

Waco Circuit—Waco, Union, New Hope, Tallapoosa.

Walton Circuit—Mt Carmel, Union Chapel, New Hope.

Stationing.

We, the Stationing Committee, beg leave to submit the following:

Atlanta Mission—S. M. Garrett, Pastor.

Bowdon Circuit—J. McD. Radford, Pastor, W. J. Causey, Associate.

Cedar Grove Circuit—To be supplied.

DeKalb Circuit—A. G. Upshaw, Pastor.

Gordon Circuit—W. N. Kinsey, Pastor.

Jackson Circuit—R. S. McGarity, Pastor.

Jersey Circuit—E. B. Aycock, Pastor.

Laurel Branch Circuit—To be supplied.

Newnan Circuit—To be supplied.

Pleasant Grove Mission—To be supplied.

Pomona Mission—To be supplied.

Randolph Circuit—L. C. Wilkerson, Pastor.

Riverdale Circuit—J. C. Patrick, Pastor.

Rock Spring Mission—W. P. Bryant, Pastor.

Rome Circuit—To be supplied.

Sharon Mission—To be supplied.

Tallapoosa Circuit—To be supplied.

Waco Circuit—J. R. Anderson, Pastor.

Walton Circuit—J. A. McGarity, Pastor.

Oconee Mission—To be supplied.

Constitution Mission—To be supplied.

Left in the hands of President—G. W. Morris, T. J. Biggers, J. O. A. Radford, E. C. Jordon, D. H. Mobley, J. B. Earnest, N. W. Wortham, S. J. Robinson, A. Mauldin.

We hereby appoint the following named ministers to attend the Campmeeting—R. S. McGarity and S. M. Garrett.

J. O. A. RADFORD, Chairman.

General Interests.

Your Committee on General Interests submit the following report: It is with great pleasure that we call attention to the growing interest in the general work of our church, which is expressed by the increase in our collections for the various interests.

If we would extend the work of our beloved Zion, we as pastors must plainly and earnestly press the interests of Home and Foreign Missions; also, Ministerial Education and Church Extension.

We would earnestly insist on the observance of Easter and Children's Day service. And we especially urge our people to take our church papers, as they are the important educators in our church. We believe our Sunday Schools should patronize our own literature.

With pleasure we call attention to the History of the Methodist Protestant Church by Rev. E. J. Drinkhouse, which is now offered at a reduced price. We also feel the necessity of purchasing and using our new Church Hymnal in all of our churches.

J. A. McGARITY, Chairman.

Orders and Itinerancy.

Your Committee would recommend that Brother J. R. Anderson's license be renewed by this Annual Conference, and that he continue the course of study ; and come in consultation, and for examination, with the Chairman of the Faculty of Instruction, Rev. J. McD. Radford, at least once a quarter for the next year.

R. S. McGARITY, Chairman.

Official Character.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Character, beg leave to make the following report :

We recommend the passage of the character of the following brethren : G. W. Morris, T. J. Biggers, J. O. A. Radford, R. S. McGarity, J. A. McGarity, W. J. Causey, E. C. Jordon, A. Mauldin, S. M. Garrett, J. C. Patrick, J. McD. Radford, W. P. Bryant, A. G. Upshaw, E. B. Acock, L. C. Wilkerson. D. H. Mobley, J. R. Anderson, S. J. Robinson, N. W. Wortham.

J. M. Langford and T. J. Lyle not heard from.

J. C. PATRICK, Chairman.

Journals.

We, your Committee, have examined the Journal of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church for the Georgia District, and find it neatly and correctly kept.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. ANDERSON, Chairman.

Credentials.

Your Committee on Credentials report the following delegates duly elected, and entitled to membership in this conference. (See membership roll.)

A. MAULDIN, Chairman.

Temperance.

Your committee submits the following :

Resolved, 1st, That we stand pledged to the furtherance in every way that we consistently can, the cause of total abstinence and prohibition.

Second, That we urge our pastors of the different charges to preach at least once during the year, at all the churches, on temperance, and that they make the occasion one of special interest in the temperance cause.

D. H. MOBLEY, Chairman.

Finance.

Your Committee would respectfully submit the following suggestions which we are persuaded are necessary to the growth and stability of our church in Georgia.

1-t. We recommend the adoption of the card system throughout the entire District for the collection of general and local interests.

2d. We recommend the like adoption of the Class Register and Record Book as per forms herewith submitted.

3d. We recommend that the funds necessary to the publishing of said cards and books be ordered paid from the funds now in the hands of the Board of Church Extension. The books and cards to be furnished to the pastors of the several charges at the actual cost of same, and the money to be paid direct to the Board or its agent for said books.

4th. We recommend that the several pastors be required to use these books.

5th. We recommend the following apportionment, per capita, for General Interests, Local Interests: Home Missions, 10 cents; Foreign Missions, 8 cents; Ministerial Education, 5 cents; Conference Collection, 5 cents; Church Extension, 30 cents.

Respectfully submitted,

H. S. CAUSEY, Chairman.

Resolutions.

Resolved. That the Georgia Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church do tender our thanks to the members and friends of Mitchell's Chapel for the very marked hospitality and kindness generally extended to us throughout our entire session.

J. A. McGARITY, Movant.

Whereas, The Georgia District feels the need of a strong church in the city of Atlanta, and,

Whereas, We believe that such a church would greatly strengthen our work and influence in Georgia, and,

Whereas, We are unable, financially, to undertake such a work through our Board of Church Extension or otherwise, unaided by other funds, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we the Georgia District in consideration of the facts above stated, do earnestly petition the Board of Home Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church to carefully consider this field and to enter into correspondence with our Conference officials relative to the building of a Methodist Protestant Church in a suitable location in said city.

J. McD. RADFORD, Movant.

Whereas, The question of a union of several of the non-Episcopal denominations of Methodism and other bodies who in common with us hold and adhere to the Arminian school of faith and doctrine, and,

Whereas, We believe such a union not only desirable but practicable, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Annual Conference consider the question of Organic Union of these several Christian bodies and if a majority think said union desirable and practicable that they give expression to the same by submitting its action to the President of the General Conference, that he may take such action in the premises as he may think best to call out a general expression of all our people upon this important question.

J. O. A. RADFORD.

Reports.

BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Board of Church Extension submit the following report:

1st. That we recommend and urge the pastors of the various charges to press their people for a liberal contribution for this special work for we are sure that it would greatly aid our church in extending her work. We are glad to note that the Board of Trustees of Carrollton church are in process of becoming an incorporated body. Also, that they are expecting to build a parsonage soon.

R. S. McGARITY, Chairman Pro Tem.

J. A. McGARITY, Secretary.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION.

Amount on deposit in Bank of Monroe.....	\$378.70
On hand from last year.....	42.41
From Conference Steward.....	69.96
Total on hand.....	\$491.07

R. S. McGARITY, Treasurer Bd. Ch. Ex.

The Board of Church Extension Debtor to J. McD. Radford President:
For postage and stationery used in President's office..... \$5.00
Paid.

CONFERENCE STEWARD'S REPORT.

Collection by Brother Ogburn for Foreign Missions.....	\$ 7.09
Amounts paid Steward for various interests—	
Home Missions.....	50.74
Foreign Missions.....	35.75
Church Extension.....	69.96
Ministerial Education.....	14.18
Conference Collection.....	41.50

J. A. McGARITY, Con. Steward.

MITCHELL'S CHAPEL, Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 19, 1902.

The Committee appointed in accord with law of our church to try the charge of falsehood against Rev. W. B. Costley, and at time and place appointed, R. S. McGarity, the chairman, impaneled a committee of trial and propounded the following question to the defendant: "Are you satisfied with the committee named?" Defendant answered, "Yes." J. O. A. Radford the prosecutor in behalf of the Conference, read the charge and specifications, to which the defendant entered the plea of "not guilty."

Evidence for and against the defendant was submitted. The trial closed and the committee retired to make up its verdict.

The verdict hereunto appended was returned to R. S. McGarity, chairman, and by him to the President of the Conference.

S. M. GARRETT, Secretary.

Your Committee on the trial of the charges against W. B. Costley have carefully examined all the evidence brought before us and find that the evidence in the case sustain the charges. And we hereby fix the penalty that he be expelled from the Conference and that his credentials be surrendered to the Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. McGARITY, Ch'm'n,
G. W. TUMLIN,
J. C. PATRICK,
T. J. BIGGERS,
A. MAULDIN.

PUBLISHING.

Received from Steward		\$41 50
Paid for publishing Minutes, 1,000 copies	\$15 06
Paid Secretary's Fee	10 00
Paid F. W. Pierpont, Agent, for blanks for 190150
Postage, Stationery, etc	10 00
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Balance on hand	\$35 50
		6 00-\$41 50

J. J. BARGE, Committee.

BY-LAWS.

GEORGIA DISTRICT—SYNOPTICAL.

1. No layman shall sit as a member of the annual conference until regularly enrolled, or until he has given satisfactory evidence of his election. Where alternates are elected, the certificates of the quarterly conference shall so express it.

2. Lay delegates to the annual conference shall be elected by the constitutional voters in the circuits and stations as follows: (a) Pastor shall notify churches at first appointment after second quarterly conference that, at next appointment, the election of delegates to annual conference will take place in each church. (b) Pastor and class-leaders shall superintend election, but in case of absence of one or both the church shall appoint some person or persons to superintend election by receiving the tickets of all the voters. Such person shall then count, seal and transmit a full list of names of voters, and number of votes given to each person voted for, by some one appointed by the church to the next quarterly conference. These returns shall be opened in conference, counted by the chairman and secretary, assisted by two laymen. The person or persons having the highest number of votes shall be declared duly elected, and furnished with certificates accordingly.

In case of a tie, the members of quarterly conference shall decide election by a majority of votes.

(c) Eligibility to vote for trustees, only members of twenty-one years of age.

For all other officers, all members.

To hold office, trustees, men twenty-one years of age, women sole femme.

Delegates to annual conference, men twenty-one years of age.

Class leaders and church stewards, all members twenty-one years old.

Sabbath-school superintendents, all members sixteen years old.

(d) Each pastor shall forward certificate of election of lay delegates to secretary of annual conference, who shall make from same, roll of lay members.

3. The conference shall never appoint any man to itinerate unless he expresses himself willing to labor in that capacity.

4. Each pastor shall urge upon all members the necessity of studying our discipline, and reading the church official organs.

5. No preacher or minister shall be elected to elder's orders, who dissents from any of the fundamental doctrines or ordinances of our church as set forth in our articles of religion, or who has not strictly complied with the discipline.

6. When practicable, the ordination of our ministers shall take place on Sabbath, during the session of conference.

7. The second article of the constitution, and the last clause of the first section of the detail discipline, shall be understood to apply to seekers of religion only, and each church may admit to full membership persons applying on their profession of their faith in Christ, and knowledge of their sins forgiven.

8. The president shall have no power, during the recess of conference, to appoint any minister or preacher to a circuit or station without consulting said circuit or station or its authorities.

9. A quorum shall be a majority of all votes of all members present.

10. The secretary shall furnish to each minister in the district the following blanks, three months before the assembling of the annual conference: On Statistics, on Finances, on Official Character.

11. Each minister shall fill above blanks and statistics and present the same as his report, to the committee on official character.

12. At the assembling of the annual conference, the president shall appoint a committee of five, styled the committee on official character, to whom shall be submitted that part of the pastor's report, concerning discharge of pastoral duties, and this committee, as soon as possible, render its report to the conference.

13. In the case of death of our ministers, committee on pulpit services, at succeeding annual conference, shall appoint an hour during that session for memorial services.

14. It shall be the duty of the board of stewards to organize immediately after elected, and organize by electing a chairman, secretary and treasurer, to solicit, receive and expend all funds coming regularly into their hands, and to keep a full, complete and accurate register of all their proceedings, receipts and expenditures.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

*To the Seventy-Third Annual Conference of The Georgia District,
Methodist Protestant Church.*

DEAR BRETHREN—Through the mercy of our God, we are again assembled in Annual Conference to praise Him for the measure of success that has attended our labors, and to implore His guidance and favor upon us while we here confer one with another on the matters that concern the work He has committed into our hands. May the spirit of our Master rule in every one of our hearts.

It is now my duty to render you an account of my stewardship, and to lay before you the results of my labors in the honored office to which you called me one year ago.

The first duty claiming my attention, after the adjournment of our last Conference, was the supply of those charges not supplied by the Conference while in session. After quite an amount of correspondence with the official members of these several charges, the following appointments were made:

Gordon Circuit—Rev. W. N. Kinsey, Pastor. Sharon Mission has had regular ministerial service at the hands of Rev. C. B. McDaniel, of Montgomery, Ala., and Brother T. J. Pearce, of Columbus, Ga. (Of course I could not, under our law, give them this appointment, but I did consent for Sharon to arrange for their own supply.) Jersey Circuit—Rev. J. O. A. Radford and Rev. D. H. Mobley. Newnan Circuit—Rev. W. P. Bryant and Rev. S. J. Robinson. Tallapoosa Circuit—No appointment made. However, I was informed that Rev. T. J. Whitehead had, by agreement with certain of the churches, consented to serve a portion of the work. There has never been any official sanction sought or given to the arrangement on the Tallapoosa Circuit. These charges were not supplied as early in the year as they ought to have been, and not without a great deal of trouble to the President, and perhaps some disappointment in the charges. I trust that at this session there will not be a single charge that will not be given a pastor or, if it cannot be supplied here, that its supply will be arranged for through the Board of Church Extension after the manner hereinafter described. Later in the year Rev. W. B. Costley resigned the pastoral charge of Union Hill Church, one of the churches on the Laurel Branch Circuit, and Rev. A. G. Upshaw was appointed, at the request of the church, to serve out the remainder of the conference year.

Because of abundant pastoral labors, the President has been unable to visit but little in the District, and only when called by necessity to some brother's circuit. However, by a heavy correspondence he has been enabled to keep himself fairly well informed as to the work and its progress all over the District. Reports seem to indicate that we have had a fairly good year, and I trust that the full reports will show

a decided growth of our church in Georgia.

We had hoped to visit several of the weaker charges at their last Quarterly Conference, but after correspondence with the Board of Church Extension, in which correspondence it developed, or seemed to develop, that the Board had but little faith in such an effort, the President did not feel justified in asking the Board for the necessary funds to enable him to make the contemplated visits. He did not feel that he could promise these weak charges any material aid when he himself was travelling on a rigid allowance for "actual expenses." Let us heed the words of the Apostle: "He which soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall also reap bountifully."

My brethren, after a careful study of all our peculiar conditions and environment as a Conference, and as just comparison as I have been able to make between our own and other Conferences, I am forced to believe that there is possible to us as great success as has come to them; that we not only may, but must, succeed in Georgia if we apply the same diligence and devotion to duty. God has set before us an open door.

If we cannot succeed in a church whose policy and government we believe to be ideal, can we hope to succeed in one where we are less confident of its system of government?

A liberal application of consecrated intelligence to the needs of our church, a liberal expenditure of consecrated zeal in its services, and the full exercise of a large faith in its mission and growth, will secure to you as blessed and as bounteous returns in Georgia as anywhere. Surely the best of church governments can find no more favorable conditions for growth and development than among one of the best peoples in all our land.

This is our hope and our faith; you will pardon, therefore, some suggestions offered in all humility and with the sincere hope that they may excite in you an inquiry into, and an investigation of, the means best suited to the accomplishment of these ends.

1. We plead for a more liberal support of the ministry. A poorly sustained pastor means of necessity a poorly fed flock. Spiritual poverty is the inevitable result, and a lifeless and inactive church the unfailing consequence. It is as truly the duty of the church to support the gospel as it is the duty of the ministry to preach it. But for a full support the ministry must expect to render a full service. These favorable conditions are not only possible in Georgia—they are history in some parts of Georgia.

2. There are unquestionably some weak charges in our District that ought to be helped in their effort to sustain a pastor on their work, but help unwisely given may prove the very worst of hindrances: indeed, it may become positively hurtful. We believe that it is not beyond the

wisdom of this body to find a wise and profitable way to extend aid to these charges. But we are quite sure that it is not the wisest thing to do to have them supplied by the Stationing Committee here, since this Committee cannot possibly have the time to investigate conditions as thoroughly as they should be investigated, in order to a wise selection of pastor. Again, the Stationing Committee has no authority to set apart any additional support for the services of such a pastor other than that contributed by the charge.

We would suggest, therefore, that these charges be made a mission field, and that their supply be arranged for as provided under the terms prescribed in our discipline.

Our own district and its development must be our first consideration, not that we would for a moment contemplate the suspension of our efforts for the several General Interests of our church, but because we must grow if we hope to be able to continue to increase our gifts in this direction.

There are some other suggestions in regard to a form of Class-Book and Church Record, Cards for individual members, and a form for Quarterly Conference Records that I will, at the proper time, lay before the Committee on General Interests and which I hope will be presented to you by that Committee for your consideration.

Thanking you for the honor you conferred on me in calling me to the Presidency of the Conference at its last session, and trusting that my labors have been, in some measure, helpful to you all, I pray the blessing and guidance of God upon you at this session.

J. McD. RADFORD,
Pres. Ga. Dist.

P. S.—Charges were preferred against W. B. Costley by certain members of Union Hill Church. R. S. McGarity was appointed chairman to preside at trial. Trial was had on November 19th, the charge was sustained, and the offending brother excluded and his credentials demanded.

J. McD. R.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to Order.
2. Religious Exercises.
3. Roll Call.
4. Enrollment of Members.
5. Election of Officers and Committees.
6. Report of Committees.
7. Introduction of Memorials, Papers, etc.
8. Incidental Business.
9. Adjournment.

CATECHISM.

By Committee on Ministerial Character, to Ministers:

1. When did you arrive on your work?
2. When did you leave your work?
3. How many appointments have you failed to meet during the Conference year? Why?
4. Have you faithfully presented the General Interests of the Church, and lifted the collections ordered by the Conference?

TO DELEGATES.

1. Was your pastor faithful?
2. Was he exemplary?
3. Was he useful?

Report of the Committee on Statistics of Georgia M. P. Conference, 1902.

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